Non receipt of amount sanctioned to up for Saving Forests from Fire

†2434. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission had sanctioned Rs. ten crores for taking measures to save the forests from fire in the hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not receiving the amount by the Forests Department of Uttar Pradesh till date and by when this amount is likely to be received by the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) Planning Commission had sanctioned an Additional Central Assistance of Rs. 10 cr. to the State of Uttar Pradesh for Annual Plan 1999-2000 for prevention and control of forest fires. As per information received from Ministry of Finance, they have issued the release order in the month of June, 99 and it is for the State Government of Uttar Pradesh to draw the amount.

Proper utilization of Central Assistance

2435. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Central assistance provided to State for various purposes, are not utilized properly;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to this state of affairs through audit reports etc. and

(c) if so, what mechanism Government propose to evolve to see that these Central assistance are utilized properly?

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†*Original Notice of the Question was received in Hindi.*